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(Staff photo by KYLE HESTER)

Holiday gifts — Those attending Mayor Ron Selph's Christmas party contributed more than 300 gifts for distribution by local welfare agencies. Shown are, from left, Ralph Hausman from St. Elizabeth Medical Center; John Bosch from Protestant Welfare; Selph; Angela Evans of Catholic Charities; and Jim Falkner of Protestant Welfare. See Page 9A for more photos.

Park District accepting trees

Are you wondering what to do with your used Christmas trees now that the holiday is over? The Granite City Park District will be accepting Christmas trees from community residents for the next couple of weeks.

Trees can be dropped off at the end of 20th Street (near Niedringhaus Elementary School) 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The drop-off site is clearly marked by an orange cone.

Ornaments and insect mesh must be removed from the trees prior to dropping them off.

'Zero tolerance' goes into effect

Teen drivers warned

By Martin Richter
Staff writer

Drivers on Illinois 157 in Collinsville on Tuesday night were confronted with a roadside checkpoint staffed by officers of the Illinois State Police, the Madison County Sheriff's Department and the Collinsville Police Department.

Such checkpoints are not uncommon during the holiday season. But the "Use It & Lose It" law as to catch motorists who were intoxicated or weren't wearing seat

belts.

Drivers at the roadblock were handed a flier bearing an illustration of an "under 21" drivers license covered by a pair of big, puckered-up lips. "Kiss it goodbye if you drink and drive," the fliers read.

The new law, passed by the Illinois General Assembly last spring, will mean license suspensions for drivers under the age of 21 caught with even a trace of alcohol in their systems. It goes into effect on Jan. 1.

Violators will receive a three-month (See DRIVERS, Page 6A)

Steel firm may build new plant

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

The Granite City area is one of six in the running for a \$75 million, state-of-the-art steel processing facility to be built in the next two years.

The facility is to be built by National Steel Corp., the parent company of Granite City Steel.

If built, the facility could create as many as 80 to 90 new full-time manufacturing jobs and would process more than a quarter of a million net tons of high-alloy coated steel per year. It would operate around the clock.

The facility, a hot-dip sheet steel galvanizing line, would be capable of processing cold-rolled carbon steel strip in coil form through a hot-dipped galvanizing process applying zinc and zinc-aluminum coating metals to specifications.

The end product would be marketed to the construction industry to be used for pre-engineered, low-rise commercial and industrial buildings.

The new facility would produce a product that the Granite City facility cannot currently produce, but would be identical to Double G Coatings Inc., a joint venture of National and Bethlehem Steel located in Jackson, Miss., according to Bob Maxwell, director for public relations at Granite City Steel.

Ken Leonard, vice president and general manager at the Granite City Division of National Steel, said an extensive search of potential sites has found Granite City to be one of six that would be suitable for the project.

Other sites expected to submit proposals include National's Midwest Division located in Portage, Ind., and "green field" sites in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia and Arkansas, Leonard said.

The proposals will be submitted to a special site search and evaluation committee comprised of National Steel employees.

If the facility is built here, Leonard said, Granite City could become a one-stop shopping place for steel products.

Working with the state Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, utility companies and other

Incentive package a key

One key in the decision-making process to determine where a new \$75 million steel processing facility will be built is economic incentives provided to National Steel.

Granite City Steel executives preparing a proposal for presentation to a site selection committee are working with state and local leaders as well as service providers. They hope to put together a package that will make the project most profitable.

Ken Leonard, vice president and general manager at Granite City Steel, asked members of the Granite City Council on Tuesday night for suggestions regarding incentives that the city could provide the company.

"Promises of tax abatements, for example, would make the project more profitable and thus more attractive to National Steel's board of directors."

"We are looking for suggestions to help us tip the scale so that National Steel will say, 'Granite City is the best place to put this line,'" said Bob Maxwell. (See PACKAGE, Page 2A)

interested parties to put together a presentation that will convince National Steel executives that Granite City is the ideal spot for the facility.

A decision to locate the facility here would greatly strengthen Granite City Division's place within the company.

While National Steel had planned on shutting down all finishing operations in Granite City in 1994, those plans have been put off for now, Leonard said.

Burt Hand, a representative of the United Steelworkers of America, said the structure of the Granite City Division

"It could be very devastating to the (See PLANT, Page 2A)

2nd suspect in double slaying

Hall arrested in Oklahoma

Madison County authorities were to leave Oklahoma City Wednesday and head to Colorado to interview a second suspect in the murder of two women whose bodies were found in a farm field off Illinois Route 3.

Two Sheriff's Department detectives drove to Oklahoma City Monday to question Felipe Lamont Hall, 30, who is charged in Madison County with two counts of first-degree murder in the shotgun slayings of Christina Masters, 29, of Maryland-Heights, Mo., and Samantha Beasley, 17, of St. Louis.

Hall, who lived in St. Louis when the women were murdered in October, fled to Oklahoma and was arrested Friday after he reportedly abducted a teen-age boy.

Hall, who is also wanted in Colorado Springs, Colo., for failure to return from a court furlough, was booked in Oklahoma on suspicion of kidnap

ping, burglary, firearm and motor vehicle charges after a dispute with his girlfriend's 14-year-old neighbor.

Madison County Sheriff's Department Chief of Detectives Capt. Robert Hertz said county detectives worked with Oklahoma authorities Monday and Tuesday and expected to interview Hall about the murders of Masters and Beasley.

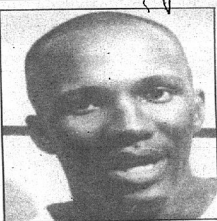
"I haven't spoken with them, but I suspect they will question him," Hertz said Tuesday.

The detectives were expected to drive to Colorado Springs to interview another man suspected in the slayings.

"They are going to Colorado to question another potential suspect," Hertz said. "It's a man who left the area with Hall after the murders."

An Oklahoma police spokesman could not be reached Tuesday, but Hertz said authorities there had not yet filed formal charges against Hall.

"It's possible they will file in



Felipe Hall

the next couple of days and then Hall will have a court appearance," Hertz said. "At this point I don't know when he'll be coming back to Madison County. I don't know how the mechanics will work. That is something the State's Attorney's Office will work out."

Hall was arrested in northeast Oklahoma City after neighbors told police they saw him force the teen-ager into his car, Hertz said. Police were in the neighborhood when Hall returned and chased him into an occupied house.

"He took off running and about 10 to 15 minutes after he was arrested they found his name on some personal papers (See SUSPECT, Page 6A)

Lawyer may face 2-year suspension

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

A state disciplinary panel has recommended a two-year suspension for a Granite City attorney who allegedly allowed three workers compensation claims to be dismissed and allegedly made false and misleading statements to one client about the status of her claim.

The hearing board of the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDIC) on Dec. 19 recommended that the law practice of Charles I. Weitzman be suspended for two years.

"(Weitzman's) misconduct constitutes a gross pattern of repeated neglect which extended from 1987 through 1992," the hearing board found.

"In each of the three workers' compensation claims, (Weitzman) failed to act, neglected to reinstate the claim and then misrepresented the status of the claim to the client," the board ruled.

The hearing board of the ARDIC is an advisory body. Any disciplinary action must

ultimately be initiated by the Illinois Supreme Court.

Weitzman, with an office and Granite City and residence in Edwardsville, could not be reached for comment.

The initial three-count complaint against Weitzman was filed in November 1993 and alleges that he allowed workers compensation claims by two clients to expire. It also alleges he told a client her case was still pending almost a year after it had been dismissed.

According to ARDIC documents, Weitzman was retained by Christina Adams Champion in July 1986 to represent her in a workers' compensation claim before the Illinois Industrial Commission, but the matter was dismissed in May 1987 because he failed to file an appearance. The workers' comp claim was filed as a result of injuries Champion had sustained while lifting a patient at the Edwardsville Care Center.

Weitzman did not take any action to reinstate the case and did not tell Champion that the case was dismissed, according to (See LAWYER, Page 2A)

Kwanzaa

A holiday for families, fun

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Christmas is over. But for many African Americans in the Tri-Cities area, the holiday season is just beginning.

Kwanzaa is the African American holiday celebrated Dec. 26 to Jan. 1.

"The annual seven-day celebration should be a way of life every day," said Cynthia Crawford of Venice. She coordinated a Kwanzaa demonstration last week at the Venice Recreation Center.

"The seven principles can be practiced by all people — not just African Americans," she said.

"Kwanzaa" is a Swahili word meaning "first" or "first fruits." The holiday celebration was begun in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, a teacher at California State University at Long Beach, to build stronger families and to teach African Americans about their rich cultural heritage.

At the first celebration, Karenga planned a program in which seven children wanted to hold signs — one holding each letter of the word for "first fruits." But because "kwanza" only has six letters, an "a" was added to the word so that each child could participate.

That story is typical of the spirit of the holiday, which (See KWANZAA, Page 6A)



(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Aftermath — Although 1994 was a relatively mild year weather-wise for the area, the effects of the Great Flood of '93 were still being felt. The for-sale sign in front of this Chouteau Island mobile home tells the story of the devastation left by the flood. For more photos from 1994, see today's People Page, Page 5A.

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Trivia

How many calls for service did the Granite City police department answer between Jan. 1 and Nov. 30 this year?

See Page 6A

75 years ago

Dec. 29, 1919

A southbound freight train on the Wabash Railroad was stopped one mile north of Nameoki Road when a couple of railroad cars were robbed in a daring manner. The train was stopped by cutting the air, automatically applying the brakes, halting the train. One man pointed a gun at the brakeman while two other men loaded merchandise from the freight cars into a waiting truck.

Deaths

Helen Annis	W. Smith
Wava Bates	Carl Tucker
M. Danheiser	J. Robertson
B. Halhill	M. Wright
John Deas	L. Singleton
Mae Gebhart	M. Starvelille
G. Fowler	J. Grodzicki
Carol Matyas	M. Anthony
Lera Watson	M. Mitchell

LOCAL NEWS

News in review

News in review provides a summary of some of the past week's stories. This column is designed for out-of-town readers who do not receive the Sunday and Wednesday Press-Record Journals.

Drug house owners targeted

Madison County officials are warning landlords that if their properties are being used to deal drugs and the activity does not stop, the buildings will be shut down and boarded up.

"This will give them specific notice that the properties they own have been used to sell drugs, to use drugs, to store drugs or have had something to do with drug activity," Assistant State's Attorney Michele Berkel said.

The action came the same week that area police arrested 19 of 31 alleged drug dealers in Madison and Venice. The suspects had been charged with drug trafficking and related crimes in a suppressed indictment issued Dec. 18.

About 40 officers participated in the arrest. The officers were from the Madison and Venice police departments, Illinois State Police, Metropolitan Enforcement Group of Southwestern Illinois, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshall's office, Secret Service and Madison County Sheriff's Department.

Police seeking clues in shooting

Illinois State Police are hoping a 57-year-old truck driver from Granite City was able to send out a distress signal over his citizens band radio early Monday morning before he died of gunshot wounds on the Martin Luther King Bridge in East St. Louis.

The body of William J. Smith was discovered slumped behind the wheel of a dark blue International tractor-trailer truck owned by Hogan Transportation Co. at 5:52 a.m. Monday, police said.

The tractor-trailer truck was stopped on the westbound approach to the MLK Bridge early Monday when a passer-by discovered Smith slumped over the wheel and the truck's driver-side window shot out.

The truck was still running at the time. Smith, of the 4200 block of Division Street, was pronounced dead shortly afterward at St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis. Police said they are treating the death as a possible drive-by shooting.

Court rules in favor of Bridick

Judgment partially came in favor of the City of Madison in three cases dating back to the mid-1980s involving former city employees.

City Attorney Casper Nighobossian announced at a regular Madison City Council meeting Tuesday that the Circuit Court for the Third Judicial Circuit in Madison County ruled that former police chief Don Bridick is entitled to reimbursement for nine days of vacation.

Claims from Judith Donaldson and Shirley Greer, both former city employees, for vacation pay and overtime pay were dismissed.

Madison will sell old equipment

The Madison City Council decided to clean house at a regular meeting held Tuesday and passed a resolution to sell four pieces of old equipment.

The items include a 1971 International two-ton dump truck and a 1980 Chevrolet bucket truck.

Candle ignites apartment fire

An unattended decorative candle apparently ignited a fire Tuesday in a downtown Granite City apartment that temporarily left a family without a home.

Firefighters responded to the blaze in an upstairs apartment of the four-family brick apartment building and battled the fire from inside. They extinguished the fire in about five minutes after throwing a bed of second-story window and onto a parking lot below.

Smoke and fire damage to the apartment left it temporarily uninhabitable. The occupants of the apartment, Brenda Allen and her daughter, are staying with relatives while the damage is repaired.

Bob Sanders, of the 2000 block of Denver Street, owns the building. A fire department report said that firefighters could not find a smoke detector but that one may have been present.

Two stabbed in fight

A 19-year-old Madison man and a 20-year-old Edwardsville man were stabbed by other men Tuesday night during a fight in Granite City.

Jeffery J. Ellis, of the 1600 block of Fourth Street in Madison, and Christopher D. Anderson, of Edwardsville, were each stabbed in a fight in the 2900 block of Marshall Avenue just after 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Police said a dispute over a woman apparently prompted the fight. Officers were investigating Wednesday and seeking three men as suspects.

Ellis was treated at St. Elizabeth Medical Center for stab wounds to the head, left hand, sternum and lower right leg. Anderson was treated at SEMC for a stab wound to his lower right back.

Both men were released from the hospital after being treated.

A witness told police that Ellis and Anderson went to the Marshall Avenue address to see a

woman—the witness' girlfriend. When three other men were in the house with the woman, an argument ensued, spilled outside and escalated into a fight.

Anderson, Ellis and another man squared off against the three men who had been in the house, witnesses told police.

Ellis said that the three men demanded to frisk him and Anderson for weapons. After frisking Ellis, one of the men punched Anderson and then punched Ellis, Ellis told police.

Ellis fell to the ground and was beaten by the men, he said.

After the fight broke up, the three men who had initially been in the house fled the scene in a car with two women, according to a police report.

Anderson told police he tried to chase the car, but collapsed and then realized he had been stabbed.

Both stabbing victims were taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Plant

(Continued from Page 1A)

Granite City area if we don't get this line," Hand said.

National Steel is looking for a 25- to 50-acre site on which to build the facility. The plant would include administrative offices, locker rooms, a metallurgical testing laboratory and wastewater treatment facilities.

Among the specific facility requirements, in addition to the land, are efficient access to rail and road transportation; utilities; and an available work force.

Easy access to a barge-navigable waterway and barge terminal facilities also are considered vital. "The project would include the facility that the facility can be built within an existing building on Granite City Steel property located on 20th Street between Madison Avenue and Nash Street; and that a salaried labor force is already in place to support the facility. Those two factors combined could save National Steel as much as \$10 million," he said.

Leonard said the proposal will also emphasize the existing trained and willing labor force in this area.

Formal presentations by leading site candidates are to begin in about two weeks, Leonard said.

A final recommendation for the site selected is expected at the Jan. 27 meeting of National Steel's board of directors.

Property acquisition is scheduled for the end of February and site preparation and construction could begin as early as March 15.



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PET OF THE WEEK

Aurora
Aurora is an 8 mos old Siamese mix. She was found sitting on the side of the road. She has her shots and has been spayed. Aurora is litter box trained and would love a nice home. Come visit her and her friends at the APA, 5000 Old Alton Rd. 8-12 Mon-Sat, 9-1 Sun. Or call 931-7030.

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Package

(Continued from Page 1A)

well, director for public relations at Granite City Steel. Among the incentives discussed are a tax increment finance (TIF) district and enterprise zone status for the new line.

But Granite City Steel officials—who said they learned about the project just slightly more than one week ago—said they are not sure yet exactly what incentives would be most beneficial to National Steel.

For example, tax records must be studied to determine if a TIF district is the best incentive for the project.

A TIF district is a special-project area in which property taxes (and in some cases sales taxes) are frozen at existing levels. Any increases in those taxes over a 20-year period are rebated to the developer instead of going to the usual taxing bodies, such as the school district or park district.

Enterprise zones create similar tax incentives for shorter periods of time.

Granite City Steel officials asked aldermen attending a joint meeting of the council's Economic Development and Downtown Rehabilitation committees for suggestions and a general show of support for the project.

Time is a major factor in the decision-making process, as National Steel's board of directors is expected to choose a location for the new facility Jan. 27.

City Attorney Leo Konzen said it would be next to impossible to establish a TIF district in the time allotted.

"It's important that the members of the council express intent to do everything they can," Konzen said.

James Miller, chairman of the Downtown Committee, said there are many things the city can do to help make the project attractive to National Steel, but that aldermen need to know the price tag of the incentive package before approving it.

Alderman Walter Milton, chairman of the Finance Committee, agreed.

"We can create any kind of (financing) we want providing we don't put the school district out of business," Milton said.

For example, a TIF district bounded only by the area to be developed would not create a financial burden for taxing districts. But TIF district status for the entire Granite City Steel facility—which involves about one-fourth of the assessed valuation of the city—would be devastating.

Alderman Mac Warfield said he would do what it takes to secure the new facility and protect the existing one.

"I don't think there's anyone on this council that wouldn't do whatever it takes to make this happen," Warfield said.

Alderman Kim Affolter said the city may be able to provide National Steel with incentives not directly related to the proposed new facility.

"You may have problems in other areas of Granite City Steel, not necessarily related to this project, that we can help with to benefit National Steel," he said.

The committee members present voted unanimously to have the city attorney staff prepare a resolution declaring the council's willingness to support the project.

NAACP meeting set for tonight

The Madison County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at the Venice Library.

Discussion will center on membership and elections.

Lawyer

(Continued from Page 1A)

ARDC pleadings.

In fact, according to the document, Weitzman told Champion in a letter dated April 8, 1988—11 months after the matter had been referred to the ARDC—that he would appear in court on the matter in 10 days. When Champion showed up for the hearing, the commission's site April 18, 1988, according to the complaint, Weitzman told her the matter had been continued due to a problem with the file.

Weitzman "thereafter assured her on a number of occasions that she would have compensation soon," according to the complaint.

Champion retained another attorney in November 1988, but her claim could not be reinstated.

Weitzman testified before the hearing board that he had received no notice about the case and that notice of the dismissal was sent to another lawyer who had failed to withdraw from the case.

Champion later received a \$40,000 settlement from Weitzman after suing him.

Weitzman said his malpractice insurance was canceled.

Counts II and III of the complaint stem from Weitzman's alleged mishandling of two workmen compensation claims by Robert Lee Galbraith Jr., an employee of Rent-A-Center.

One claim involved injuries Galbraith sustained while carrying a television set. Weitzman filed his appearance as Galbraith's counsel on May 5, 1988, but the case was dismissed for lack of prosecution in February of 1991. The claim was reinstated in April 1991 upon Weitzman's request.

But in July 1991, Weitzman told Galbraith he intended to withdraw from the case. When Galbraith's new lawyer requested that Weitzman be removed, Weitzman sent a letter which failed to advise the new attorney of the case's status, according to the complaint.

Weitzman had not withdrawn as counsel for Galbraith when the case was dismissed a second time for lack of prosecution in January 1992. A new attorney filed an appearance on the matter on July 14, 1992, only to find that the claim could not be reinstated.

Count III alleges that Weitzman agreed to represent Galbraith in another claim stemming from an injury sustained when a customer attacked Galbraith. Weitzman filed his appearance in April 1988 and requested continuances four times between 1988 and 1991 before telling Galbraith by letter July 11, 1991 that he would withdraw from the case.

On Sept. 16, 1991 the case was dismissed for want of prosecution and Galbraith had not yet withdrawn from the case, the complaint alleges.

Weitzman testified that he sought the continuances because a settlement offer of about \$3,200 had been made and Galbraith would not accept it. He also said he did not take any other actions because Galbraith indicated he intended to seek other counsel.

Weitzman received his law license in Illinois in 1973 after graduating from Purdue University and receiving his law degree from Loyola University School of Law. He worked part-time in the Madison County Public Defender's office from 1974 to 1980. He was also appointed in 1992 to represent convicted murderer Lloyd Wayne Hampton after Hampton, who had said he wanted to be executed, changed his mind six hours before he was to die.

He has also provided legal assistance to women through the Phoenix Crisis Center, a shelter for battered women.

Weitzman's license was suspended for six months more than 10 years ago for failing to file state income tax returns in 1977, 1978 and 1979, authorities said.

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Study says children's drug use is worsening

Area drug counselors are concerned about a shocking new study that shows an increase of drug use among younger children.

One in four schoolchildren has used illegal drugs before reaching high school, according to researchers who say drug use among American youngsters is "getting worse at a fairly rapid pace."

A University of Michigan study released Monday in Washington, D.C., found that while use of illegal drugs, particularly marijuana, continued to rise among all teen-agers this year, the trend was most disturbing among younger children.

"I'm not surprised by the results of the study," said Kris Gamm-Smith, executive director of the Community Counseling Center of Northern Madison County in Alton.

"We haven't done studies but we know there is a significant drug problem," she said. The center has been "overwhelmed by the amount of substance abuse in families of children," Gamm-Smith said.

Among eighth-graders, 25 percent acknowledged use of illicit drugs at some point in their lifetime, a figure that rose to 35 percent when inhalants were included, according to the Michigan study. Both figures were up about 3 percentage points from 1993.

Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, Education Secretary Richard Riley and Lee Brown, director of the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy, released the study in Washington Monday.

"We're not just here to sound the alarm. We're here to issue a call to action," Shalala said.

"I'm not surprised by the results of the study. We haven't done studies but we know there is a significant drug problem."

— Kris Gamm-Smith
Counselor

"But the real work has to be done in our communities and in our homes, with parents leading the way."

Edwardsville DARE officer Sgt. Don Lask agreed that parents need to get involved in the program. "Teaching something just in a classroom will not solve everything," he said.

Parental acceptance of alcohol and tobacco use is a detriment to anti-drug abuse efforts, East Alton DARE officer detective Darren Carlton said.

"Parents accept alcohol and cigarettes and think it is no big deal when they are using those drugs," Carlton said.

DARE is a 13-week course taught by police officers to make middle school children aware of the danger and consequences of drug use.

Michigan's Institute for Social Research began studying teenage drug abuse rates in 1975. It tracked an expansion of drug abuse into the late 1970s, a substantial decline that lasted through 1991, and a resurgence since then.

Lloyd D. Johnston, one of three researchers who conducted the study, linked this rise to the message young people are getting today about drugs.

"They are hearing much less about the dangers of drugs and seeing more glamorization of drugs," he said.

Johnston pointed to findings that 35 percent of eighth-graders, almost 43 percent of 10th-graders and almost half of 12th-graders have used illegal drugs including inhalants, all up from recent years.

"It is a problem which is getting worse at a fairly rapid pace," he said.

The report found that the rise in marijuana use was the most striking. Among eighth-graders, 13 percent said they had smoked marijuana in the past year, double the rate in 1991. The rate among 10th-graders jumped from 16 percent in 1991 to 25 percent this year, while the increase was from 24 percent to 31 percent for high school seniors.

"I've heard from other studies that marijuana use is on the increase among children in general," said Suzanne Ringhausen, program director of the chemical dependence treatment center at St. Clare's Hospital. "We need to develop more significant prevention programs."

Use of harder drugs such as LSD and other hallucinogens, stimulants, cocaine and crack did not show significant increases from 1993, but remained at high levels.

— From the Alton Telegraph



(Staff photo by KYLE HESTER)

Food and toy collection — Building Service Employees Union Local 98 collected food and toys for the families of needy students recently at the Granite City High School cafeteria. Shown are, from left, Jim Dickerson, Shirley Ethridge, Paulette Bell, Betty Forshee, Beatrice Stevenson, Pat Lour, Irma Osborn, Karen Kamadulski and Shirley Bushong. Service Employees Union Local 98 includes custodians, cooks and teacher aides.

U.S. questions 'granny tax'

SPRINGFIELD — Grants to partially offset the controversial Illinois yearlong "granny tax" on nursing home residents are raising questions from a federal agency.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is questioning whether the daily \$1 tax for each occupied nursing home bed that was imposed for the fiscal year starting July 1, 1992, met requirements to qualify for matching federal Medicaid reimbursement.

The tax was used to raise money for grants to partially off-

set the \$6.30 per day per bed nursing home tax, dubbed the "granny tax" by opponents, that was imposed during the same period.

Illinois Department of Public Aid spokesman Dean Schott said the agency is convinced "we can make the case" that it met the federal criteria. He said a federal waiver had been obtained for the overall granny tax.

Schott described the federal inquiry as a routine demand for additional documentation, and he said Public Aid is not concerned about a possible threat to make

Illinois return \$111.8 million in Medicaid reimbursements.

The \$1 tax was imposed to raise money to pay for grants of up to \$500 every three months to people in nursing homes whose taxable income did not exceed \$17,000 after nursing home expenses were deducted.

However, the grants for the last quarter the granny tax was imposed, April through June 1993, still have not been paid because the Legislature has not appropriated the money, said Illinois Department of Revenue spokesman Mike Klemens.

Coast Guard honors man for rescue

The Second Coast Guard District has honored Paul Blattner of Granite City with the Coast Guard Public Service Commendation Award for his rescue of two people from the Mississippi River on Oct. 19.

The presentation of the award took place Dec. 21 at the Robert Young Federal Building in St. Louis. Blattner was boating in a St. Louis harbor of the river when he saw a pontoon boat, with three people on board, break down directly in front of an approaching two-barge tow, authorities said.

The two boats collided, sending the three persons into the water.

Blattner saw one person clinging to the still-floating pontoon boat and the other two floating downstream in the swift river current.

Authorities credited Blattner with maneuvering his personal watercraft to the two victims and pulling them back to the now tied-off pontoon boat. He then helped both out of the water to safety.

His prompt action prevented a possible drowning, officials said at the Coast Guard's Public Affairs Office.



Capt. Frank Chlisczyk, left, presents Paul Blattner with the Coast Guard Public Service Commendation for his October 1994 rescue of two people from the Mississippi River.

THE LAW AND YOU

By RICK REED
Attorney At Law

When a child's death is caused by another person's negligence, Illinois law allows the parent to recover for the loss of the child's companionship. Loss of companionship has been recognized by the Illinois Supreme Court as one part of the damages sustained by the parents when their child dies.

Recently, the question arose as to whether the owner of a pet can recover damages for loss of companionship if the pet dies as a result of an individual's negligence. The question here is whether pet owners who sustain a loss should be treated the same as parents who lose a child. This question was addressed in a recent case.

The plaintiffs took their pet German shepherd dog to an animal hospital for diagnostic treatment. During the course of the examination, the veterinarians administered anesthesia to the dog, and this resulted in the animal's death. The plaintiffs brought an action against the Animal Hospital and against the two veterinarians, alleging that the anesthesia was improperly administered.

The trial court recognized the plaintiffs had stated a cause of action for property damage. The

trial judge, however, refused to allow the plaintiffs to be compensated for loss of "companionship, loyalty, security and friendship" of the dog. The plaintiffs took the case to the Appellate Court. The Appellate Court noted that if a person is going to recover damages for loss of companionship, the loss must involve human beings, not dogs. In the eyes of the law, a dog is an item of personal property. The Court noted that the measure of damages should be an item's "actual value to the plaintiff," which may include some element of sentimental value. However, the Appellate Court emphasized that Illinois law will not permit recovery for loss of companionship when a person loses a pet.

Why is it significant that pet owners cannot recover for loss of companionship resulting from negligently caused death of pets? By not allowing the pet owner to recover for loss of companionship, the Appellate Court is in essence saying that damages will be limited in these cases. Whereas parents who lose a child may recover substantial amounts of money because of loss of companionship, pet owners who sustain a loss will not be treated in the same manner.

RICK REED
Attorney At Law

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Most would rather give help

TO THE EDITOR:

During the last few months, I have had the privilege to work with some very concerned people in preparing food baskets for Christmas.

This is the third year I have had this opportunity. Last year, we put together 50 or more baskets; this year, we did more than 70.

I don't know how much longer we can continue to meet the increasing demand for what we do, but I do believe the demand will increase until something or someone changes the way things are done.

One of the main points that must be expressed is that most of the people on the receiving end of this program, and many others that I have heard about, not only do not wish to be in that position they are in but want to know how they can help others.

Please, think of this when you are asked to donate. Most of these people are needy—not greedy—and most of these want to help others and not be receiving the help.

To those of you who have helped others, God bless you and thank you. I feel sorry for you who have not heard or seen the joy of those receiving the things we take for granted.

MARVIN RIBBING
Ponton Beach

Bible at odds with actions

TO THE EDITOR:

I always read your "to the editor" column. It is right before Christmas and I have a question or two.

I wonder: If abortion is OK, what would all have done if Mary had chosen that instead of having baby Jesus? Can someone out there answer this one?

If our Bible says homosexuality is an abomination in the eyes of God and it is called "sin" in the Bible, why are there people who are gay?

One last thing: Since our country was built on religious freedom, why can't our children say a prayer in school?

Please help me understand these things or maybe someone in Granite City knows the answers.

SHIRLEY TRAVIS
Granite City

Parents must set priorities

TO THE EDITOR:

To parents out there raising children in the Granite City and Madison school districts:

Madison school district is home for nine and a half years. I recently moved back to my hometown, Granite City.

I didn't move because of my neighborhood; I dearly loved my neighbors. I moved because I, as a single parent, had too much property to take care of.

It was not an easy decision. Now, I have a house I can take care of and spend time with my children, too.

I found out we have wonderful teachers in both school districts. If your child should develop a bad attitude, a negative outlook or just plain old prejudices—what are you doing as a parent to help your child in this learned behavior?

Let's quit blaming our school systems. If a child is not taught respect at home, how can we show it? Hey, parent, what you don't owe your child are a car, a bank account and an expensive Christmas.

But, what you as a parent owe your child is the value of respect for self and others, so that this child may have the right to a decent life.

This can help him or her cope more easily with the pressures in this life, instead of drugs helping him or her to cope.

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Americans want real change...

TO THE EDITOR:

The calling of a special lame duck session of Congress by President Bill Clinton should be taken seriously by every American.

The voters swept Democrats out of office not because they are infatuated with Republicans but because they want real change. We Americans do not want a lame duck Congress to vote and lay the ground work for a New World Order.

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The finest thing they can do when they arrive in Washington is to adjourn and leave town with some semblance of dignity.

ERWIN WEIN
Glen Carbon

...But not this much change

TO THE EDITOR:

Many political pundits have said the voters in the 1994 election are still wanting change. But the change that may come about is not the change that I believe the people of this area, or the residents of this state, want.

Shortly after the election, news reports surfaced of the changes that Speaker-elect Lee Daniels wants to make in the operation of the Illinois House. But, one of those changes will have a negative impact on all House members and the people they represent.

Mr. Daniels wants to abolish consideration of amendments on the House floor and let committee handle those amendments. It doesn't really sound like a deal, but a closer look will tell you how harmful this move could be to the legislative process.

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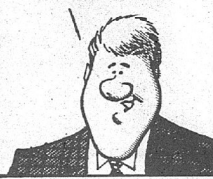
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...I'D LIKE TO GIVE THE MIDDLE CLASS A TAX CUT...



...WHILE CUTTING THE DEFICIT...



...AND RADICALLY REDUCING SOCIAL PROGRAMS...



...WITHOUT LOSING SIGHT OF MY LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC VALUES.



...AND I THOUGHT POWER RANGERS WERE TOUGH TO GET...



Orange County's positive pastor



Bill Winter

When you hear of Orange County these days, it brings to mind the prosperous county's winter of discontent, a \$1.5-billion debt bankruptcy problem attributed to poor governmental investments.

But there is another major facet of Orange County and, specifically, Garden Grove, Calif. It is the "Hour of Power."

This holiday season, we attended a pre-Christmas service at the 91,000-square-foot Crystal Cathedral and heard its "positive possibilities" pastor.

The Rev. Dr. Phil Schuller established the ministry in 1955 by conducting outdoor services.

Twenty families attended on March 27 that year, contributing \$83.75.

Today, there is a structure containing more than 10,000 two-by-six-foot windows. And his live, hour-long weekly televised services span the world, seen by nearly a billion people.

He preaches, teaches and writes not only about the Bible but also about his "can do" philosophy. At 68, he remains highly motivated and energetic.

"His books include 'Life Changes,' 'How to Be an Extraordinary Person in an Ordinary World,' 'Getting Through the Going-Through Stage,' 'Power to Grow Beyond Yourself,' 'Dump Your Hang Ups Without Dumping Them on Others' and 'Just Because'

...You're on a Roll Doesn't Mean You're Going Downhill.' His recurring theme is that, 'with God, all things are possible,' and he has gone a long way toward proving it.

When he was a young seminary graduate, he and his wife left their parish in Chicago and journey to southern California. He had a second-hand organ and \$500 but no worship site for the proposed Garden Grove Community Church.

After being turned down by a school, a mortuary, a fraternal lodge and six other possible locations, he began preaching at the drive-in theater. Two years later, the church built a small chapel and he spoke at both sites.

A large sanctuary was built at the present campus in 1961. That building has been used as a meeting place since the current 128-foot-tall glass and steel cathedral was dedicated on Sept. 14, 1989.

An adjacent Tower of Hope, topped by a 90-foot cross, was

started in 1966 at a groundbreaking presided over by Dr. Schuller and Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. With the completion of that tower in 1968, the church began "New Hope" telephone counseling, a 24-hour ministry.

Television coverage of Sunday services began in 1970 but, despite this expanded access, the services continued to draw over-capacity crowds, making construction of the cathedral necessary.

Shaped like a star, the cathedral, designed by Architect Philip Johnson, was completed in 1989. It is the largest of its kind in the world.

It holds 2,800 persons in opera-style seats, and the choir loft and chancel areas have room for another 1,000 persons.

The cathedral was built to withstand an earthquake of 8.0 on the Richter scale, a wise plan in view of the large number of quakes in that area. One occurred the night after we flew east from Los Angeles.

Twelve fountains run the length of the center aisle and represent Jesus' 12 apostles.

A 236-foot-tall prayer spire of mirrored stainless-steel panels was built in 1990.

At the base of the spire is a domed prayer chapel with 33 vertical marble columns, one for each year of Christ's life.

A 52-bell Arvella Schuller

Carillon recognizes her long music ministry at the church. A specially-designed church organ consists of 261 ranks and more than 16,000 pipes, the second largest fully-functional organ in the world.

The church is independent but aids CUGM, Churches United in Global Mission, and ISOC, the International School of Christian Communications. ISOC is among the programs housed in the 145,000-square-foot Family Life Center, built near the cathedral in 1990.

The cathedral is the site of frequent performances of "The King of David" by the largest States, and "The Glory of Easter," rivaling in its size and scope the Oberammergau, Germany, Passion Play.

On the grounds in Garden Grove is the Good Shepherd, a life-size bronze statue of Jesus. Near it is a marble statue of Job, surrounded by such Scripture verses as:

"For I know that my redeemer lives."

And, "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Dr. Schuller's favorite non-Bible quotation is from W.H. Murray:

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."

A 52-bell Arvella Schuller

A New Year's Day party for a worthy cause

Folklore has it, among those of Germanic background, that eating herring at New Year's will guarantee good luck in the new year. Tradition among southerners prescribes Hopplin' John on New Year's Day, for the same result.

Well, I've never met a herring, served in any way you could name, that I haven't hated and black-eyed peas isn't high on my list of favorite foods, either.

A suggestion for those of you who feel the same way. How about a little down home simple stuff, like ham and beans and homemade white cornbread, as prepared by chef-for-a-day Bill Keith—and for free! Where, you ask? Right down on Main Street, at Vanzo's in

Edwardsville. From 12 noon until 7 p.m. Drinks are not on the house, but there is a good-luck guarantee, if not for the guests, at least for a bunch of those who benefit the party is being held.

Last year's New Year's Day special party at Vanzo's was the first of what a group of area Shriners say they hope will become a local tradition, thanks in large part to Vicki Vanzo Stassi. Several of the guys involved got the courage to ask Vicki about an idea they had to raise funds for the St. Louis Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. Namely, that because she wasn't planning to open the bar before evening, she allow them to use the premises until 7, they'd provide and serve food and tend bar, and all tips collected would go to the hospital.

Vicki, who is as good-hearted



Carol Clarkin

as she is pretty, agreed immediately and even the fellows involved were surprised at its success. They collected more than \$600 in tips in a matter of seven hours.

Last year's fund-raiser worked so well that this year's party is planned along the same lines and with the same personnel.

In addition to chef Bill Keith, bartenders will be Rich Schmidt, Bob Rizzi, and Wayne Schrage. There will be live music, although the planners at this moment are unsure exactly which Shrine musical group will provide it. Food is on the house, you pay for drinks—and teetotalers are welcome, too—soft drinks, tea and coffee will be on tap as well as liquor.

Anyone who has ever visited the Shriner's Hospital in St. Louis has to have been as impressed as I have been with both the work done there and the spirits of the young patients. The cause is a worthy one. Vicki learned that last year when, following the party, Rich Schmidt invited her (and Sue Rizzi, Bob's wife) to accompany him when he delivered the benefit money to the hospital. A practice of \$800.00 donated, to dedicate a page in what they call "The Gold Book" to the

donor. Following her tour of the hospital, Vicki asked that the page be dedicated to the patrons of Vanzo's. If Rich Schmidt has his way, and if the patrons are as generous this year as they were last year, there'll be another page in the book, this time dedicated to Vicki. Only fitting.

And, not just incidentally, have a happy (and safe) New Year.

For a number of years, Ed

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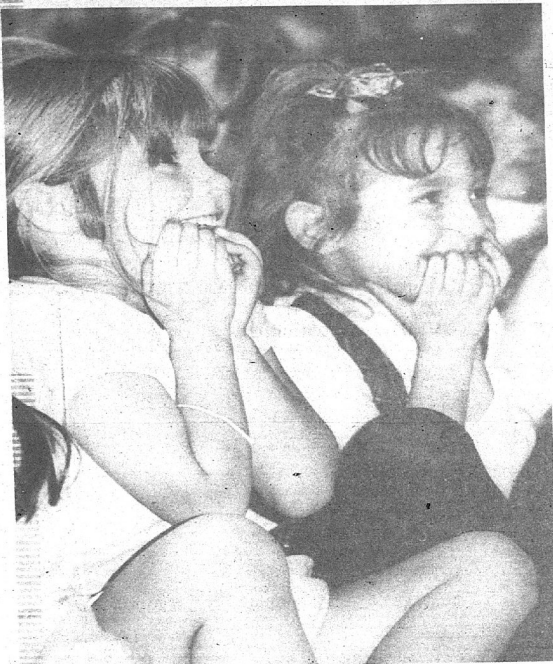
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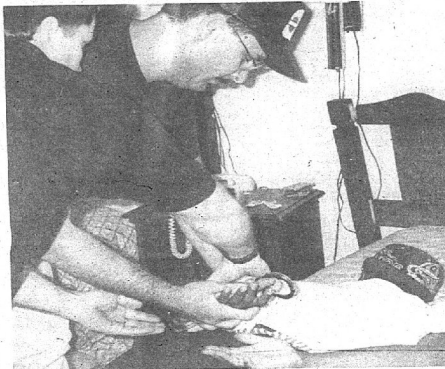
People

The year in photographs

A look back at photos that made the news



Giggles — Parkview Elementary School kindergarten students Anna Green, left, and Amber Miller were delighted and a little frightened by a lion that took the stage during a puppet show in February.



(Staff photo by BOB SLATE)

Captured — Granite City police officers Craig Knight and Ray Takmajian handcuff a suspect June 9 during a raid at the Granite City Lodge.



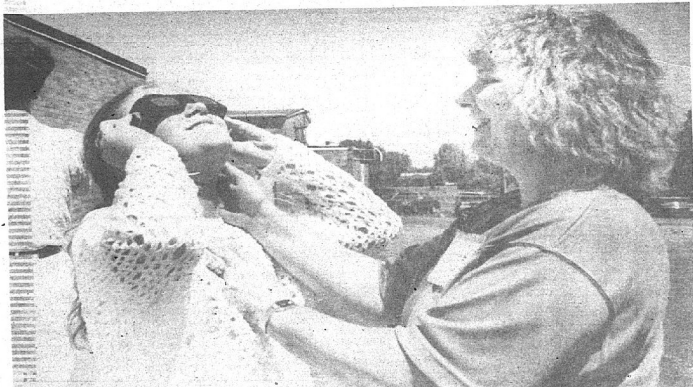
All smiles — Edna Chandler delighted in holding Pussboots, a stray cat found in Cahokia, during a Pet Therapy session in March at Colonial Care Center. The event was sponsored by the Madison County Humane Society.



Icy — Granite City firefighters Danny Greene, left, and Gene Mullen were covered with ice Jan. 7 while battling a blaze at 1533 26th Street.

Staff photos by PAM DOEPKE-HURD

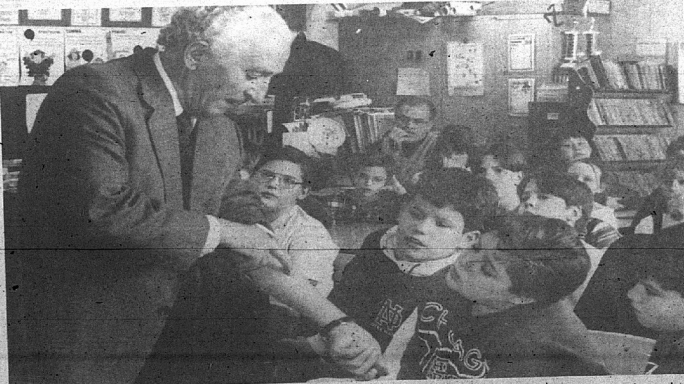
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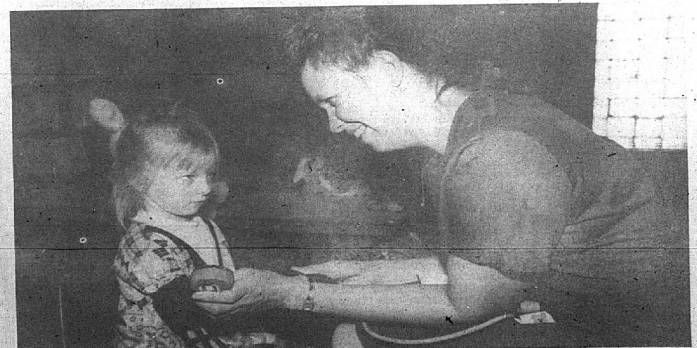
Eclipse — The May 10 solar eclipse brought out the scientist in residents throughout the area. Jessica Harper, a student in Mary Morgan's fifth grade class at Parkview Elementary School, views the eclipse through special glasses provided by the St. Louis Science Center while her mother, Connie, assists.



Battle — Firefighters Art Asadorian, kneeling, and Charlie Bernaix battle the fire and the temperature (8 degrees) during the Jan. 7 fire.



Horror — Nazi concentration camp survivor Harry Lengua shows his tattooed number to sixth grade students at Parkview Elementary School during a two-class presentation in February.



Unsure — Heather Watkins, left, looks skeptical as St. Elizabeth Medical Center nurse Elizabeth Connor shows Heather her blood pressure during a Tender Loving Bear Care Clinic in April.

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Mr. Daniels would be abolishing along with the rights of all House members to offer floor amendments. With the input of House members quashed, that means the views of the people we represent will not be heard.

Mr. Daniels has stated that he wants to prevent huge amendments containing thousands of pages from appearing in members' desks at the last minute. But, he will have the power to prevent that from happening since the speaker has control over the flow of legislation. He doesn't have to step on the rights of every single House member in the process.

In talking with incumbent Congressman Jerry Costello in a legislative process, there are numerous examples of important pieces of legislation that have been adopted during the floor amendment stage, such as the state budget.

But, most important is the fact that all members have a right to give during the Second Reading of a bill. And apparently, Mr. Daniels wants to take that away from us.

No other speaker, Democrat or Republican, has instituted rules that infringe on the rights of every single member of the House.

Yes, voters wanted change. But, I do not believe that the change they wanted included stifling input and reducing their representation.

STEVE DAVIS
State Representative-elect
House District 111

Costello helped get bridge funds

TO THE EDITOR:
Please recognize the efforts of Congressman Jerry Costello in acquiring the recent funding from the state of Illinois to proceed on a project of great importance to the metro East, the McKinley Bridge in Venice.

The project had been stunted for years while the bridge continued to deteriorate. Congressman Costello's involvement was critical in developing a strategy to obtain the final funding for the repairs to the bridge.

The series of meetings called by the congressman were essential in bringing about the players required to make his strategy work. Without their cooperation, the hunt for funding would be ongoing.

I thank Congressman Costello for his dedication to this project and to his Congressional District.

JOHN BELCOFF
Mayor of Madison

...I'D LIKE TO GIVE THE MIDDLE CLASS A TAX CUT...



...WHILE CUTTING THE DEFICIT...



...AND RADICALLY REDUCING SOCIAL PROGRAMS...



...WITHOUT LOSING SIGHT OF MY LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC VALUES.



Orange County's positive pastor

When you hear of Orange County these days, it brings to mind the prosperous county's winter of discontent, a \$1.5-billion debt bankruptcy problem attributed to poor governmental investments.

But there is another major facet of Orange County and, specifically, Garden Grove, Calif. It is the "Hour of Power."

This holiday season, we attended a pre-Christmas service at the 91,000-square-foot Crystal Cathedral and heard its "positive possibilities" pastor.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Schuller established the ministry in 1965 by conducting outdoor services. Twenty families attended on March 27 that year, contributing \$88.75.

Today, there is a structure containing more than 10,000 two-by-six-foot windows. And his live, hour-long weekly televised services span the world, seen by nearly a billion persons.

He preaches, teaches and writes not only about the Bible but also about his "can do" philosophy. At 68, he remains highly motivated and energetic.

His books include "Life Changers," "How to Be an Extraordinary Person in an Ordinary World," "Getting Through the Going-Through Stage," "Power to Grow Beyond Yourself," "Dump Your Hang Ups Without Dumping Them on Others" and "Just Because

Folklore has it, among those of Germanic background, that eating herring on New Year's will guarantee good luck in the new year. Tradition among southerners prescribes Hoppin' John on New Year's Day, for the same reason.

Well, I've never met a herring, served in any way you could name, that I haven't hated and black-eyed peas isn't high on my list of favorite foods, either.

A suggestion for those of you who feel the same way. How about a little down home simple stuff, like ham and beans and home-made white cornbread, as prepared by chef-for-a-day Bill Keith — and for free! Where, you ask? Right down on Main Street, at Vanzo's in

Edwardsville. From 12 noon until 7 p.m. Drinks are not on the house, but there is a good-luck guarantee, if not for the guests, at least for a bunch of kids for whose benefit the party is being held.

Last year's New Year's Day special party at Vanzo's was the guest of a group of area Shriners say they hope will become a local tradition, thanks in large part to Vicki Vanzo Stassi. Several of the guys involved got the courage to ask Vicki about an idea they had to raise funds for the St. Louis Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children. Namely, that because she wasn't planning to open the bar before evening, she allow them to use the premises until 7, they'd provide and serve food and lend bar, and all tips collected would go to the hospital.

Vicki, who is as good-hearted

Bill Winter

You're on a Roll Doesn't Mean You're Going Downhill.

His recurring theme is that, "with God, all things are possible," and he has gone a long way toward proving it.

When he was a young seminary graduate, he and his leave their parish in Chicago and journey to southern California. He had a second-hand organ and \$500 but no worship site for the proposed Garden Grove Community Church.

After being turned down by a school, a mortuary, a fraternal lodge and six other possible locations, he began preaching at the drive-in theater. Two years later, the church built a small chapel and he spoke at both sites.

A large sanctuary was built at the present campus in 1961. That building has been used as a meeting place since the current 126-foot-tall glass and steel cathedral was dedicated on Sept. 14, 1980.

An adjacent Tower of Hope, topped by a 90-foot cross, was

started in 1966 at a groundbreaking presided over by Dr. Schuller and Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. With the completion of that tower in 1968, the church began "New Hope" telephone counseling, a 24-hour ministry.

Television coverage of Sunday services began in 1970 but, despite this expanded access, the services continued to draw over-capacity crowds, making construction of the cathedral necessary.

Shaped like a star, the cathedral, designed by Architect Philip Johnson, was completed debt-free, thanks to gifts by hundreds of thousands of TV viewers.

It holds 2,890 persons in opera-style seats, and the choir loft and chancel areas have room for another 1,000 persons.

The cathedral was built to withstand an earthquake of 8.0 on the Richter scale, a wise plan in view of the large number of quakes in that area. One occurred the night after we flew east from Los Angeles.

Twelve fountains run the length of the center aisle and represent Jesus' 12 apostles. A 236-foot-tall prayer spire of mirrored stainless-steel panels was built in 1990.

At the base of the spire is a domed prayer chapel with 38 vertical marble columns, one for each year of Christ's life.

A 53-bell Arville Schuller

Carillon recognizes her long music ministry at the church. A specially-designed church organ consists of 281 ranks and more than 16,000 pipes, the second largest fully-functional organ in the world.

The church is independent but aids CUGM, Churches Uniting in Global Mission, and ISOC, the International School of Christian Communications. ISOC is among the programs housed in the 145,000-square-foot Family Life Center, built near the cathedral in 1990.

The cathedral is the site of frequent performances of "The Glory of Christmas," the Japanese living nativity in the United States, and "The Glory of Easter," rivaling in its size and scope the Oberammergau, Germany, Passion Play.

On the grounds in Garden Grove is the Good Shepherd, a life-size bronze statue of Jesus. Near it is a marble statue of Job, surrounded by such Scripture verses as:

"For I know that my redeemer lives." And, "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Dr. Schuller's favorite non-Bible quotation is from W.H. Murray: "Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."

I have considered New Year's Eve as Amateur Night, so I suspect it isn't going to be our night to howl. But we will be out and among 'em New Year's Day at Vanzo's and with permission from the guys and Vicki, I'd like to issue an invitation. Y'all come, too! Just be lavish when you tip.

And, not just incidentally, have a happy (and safe) New Year.

Carol Clarkin

as she is pretty, agreed immediately and even the fellows involved were surprised at its success. They collected more than \$600 in tips in a matter of seven hours.

Last year's formula worked so well that this year's party is planned along the same lines and with the same personnel.

In addition to chef Bill, bartenders will be Rich Schmidt, Bob Rizza, and Wayne Schrage. There will be live music, although the planners at this moment are unsure of the lines which Shrine musical group will provide it. Food is on the house, you pay for drinks — and

beverages are welcome, too — soft drinks, tea and coffee will be on tap as well as liquor.

Anyone who has ever visited the Shriner's Hospital in St. Louis has to have been as impressed as I have been with both the work done there and the spirits of the young patients.

The cause is a worthy one. Vicki learned that last year when, following the party, Rich Schmidt invited her (and Sue Mozzi, Bob's wife) to accompany him when he delivered the benefit money to the hospital. A practice of the hospital, when a minimum of \$500 is donated, is to dedicate a page in what they call "The Gold Book" to the

donor. Following her tour of the hospital, Vicki said that the page be dedicated to the patrons of Vanzo's. If Rich Schmidt has his way, and if the patrons are as generous this year as they were last year, there'll be another page in the book this time dedicated to Vicki. Only fitting.

For a number of years, Ed

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Second Class postage paid at Granite City, IL, USPS 225-100.

Giggles and Ambrosia during a

Eclipse Harper through

Hon. student

People



Giggles — Parkview Elementary School kindergarten students Anna Green, left, and Amber Miller were delighted and a little frightened by a lion that took the stage during a puppet show in February.

The year in photographs

A look back at photos that made the news



(Staff photo by BOB SLATE)

Captured — Granite City police officers Craig Knight and Ray Takmajian handcuff a suspect June 9 during a raid at the Granite City Lodge.



All smiles — Edna Chandler delighted in holding Pussboots, a stray cat found in Cahokia, during a Pet Therapy session in March at Colonial Care Center. The event was sponsored by the Madison County Humane Society.



Icy — Granite City firefighters Danny Greene, left, and Gene Mullen were covered with ice Jan. 7 while battling a blaze at 1533 26th Street.

Staff photos by PAM DOEPKE-HURD

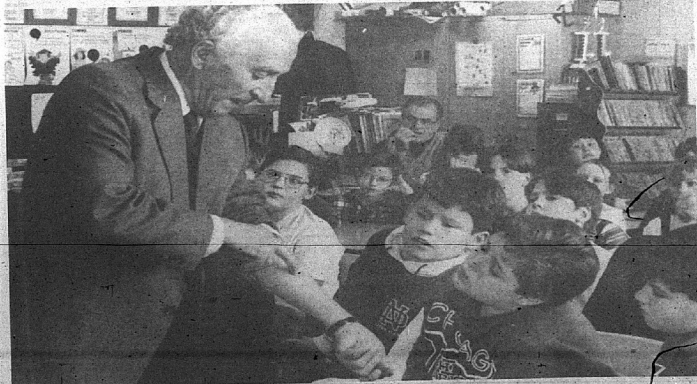
(except as noted)



Eclipse — The May 10 solar eclipse brought out the scientist in residents throughout the area. Jessica Harper, a student in Mary Morgan's fifth grade class at Parkview Elementary School, views the eclipse through special glasses provided by the St. Louis Science Center while her mother, Connie, assists.



Battle — Firefighters Art Asadorian, kneeling, and Charlie Bernaix battle the fire and the temperature (8 degrees) during the Jan. 7 fire.



Horror — Nazi concentration camp survivor Harry Lengua shows his tattooed number to sixth grade students at Parkview Elementary School during a two-class presentation in February.



Unsure — Heather Watkins, left, looks skeptical as St. Elizabeth Medical Center nurse Elizabeth Connor shows Heather her blood pressure during a Tender Loving Bear Care Clinic in April.

Obituaries



Carl Tucker

Carl E. Tucker, 95, of Webster Groves, Mo., formerly of Venice, died at 3 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, 1994. He was born Nov. 6, 1901, in southern Missouri. A railroad employee for many years prior to his retirement, he was a member of the Shriners and various other organizations. He was of the Protestant faith. Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Gloria Tucker, two sisters, Lucille Martin of Pontoon Beach and Helen Art of Virginia, his friend, Frances Bergman of Webster Groves; four grandsons, and several nephews and nieces, including Maxine Green, Glenn Stagg, Marilee Verdu and Carol Cuccilli, all of Granite City. He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie (Witt) Tucker, his parents, William and Anna (Halford) Tucker, seven brothers, Fred, Glen, Fred, Henry, Louis, Jack and Donald Tucker, and one sister, Nell Pickett. Services were held Monday, Dec. 19, at Kautz Mortuary, Webster Groves. Burial was in Missouri.

William Smith

William Jack "Bill" Smith Sr., 57, of Granite City, formerly of Holland, Tenn., died at 6:40 a.m. Monday, Dec. 26, 1994, from a gunshot wound he received while driving a truck on the Martin Luther King Bridge in East St. Louis, 1937, in Holland and had been a resident of Granite City for 35 years. Employed with Hogan Transport for 30 years as a truck driver, he was previously a driver trainer for various truck driving schools. Mr. Smith was a member of Teamsters Local 525 and the Masonic lodge of Holland and was an Army veteran. Survivors include his wife, Sylvia Smith, whom he married in 1967; one son, William J. Smith Jr., of Pontoon Beach; two daughters, Tammy M. Smiley

•Drivers

(Continued from Page 1A)

suspension on a first offense, or a year's license suspension for a second offense. The penalties are double for minors who refuse to be tested.

Coordinator Linda K. Odle of the Madison County DUI Task Force said part of the purpose of Tuesday's checkpoint was to disseminate information on the new law to young people, and to parents as well.

A third of all motor vehicle fatalities involving drivers under 21 are alcohol-related, she said.

"We certainly hope that it will reduce the accidents and the fatalities," she said. "I think there is more awareness with the young people that they are being watched, and I hope the zero tolerance law will be another factor in that."

Ill. Bill Reckman of the Illinois State Police said he thinks the law will serve as a powerful deterrent to underage drinking and driving.

"I think when the word gets out that with any trace of alco-

•Kwanzaa

(Continued from Page 1A)

emphasizes families, fun and education.

"Today, it is celebrated by millions of people. Families spend time together every day during Kwanzaa. They wear bright African-style clothes, eat African food and listen to African music."

"In many instances, the real heroes of the past are members of our own families," Crawford

•Suspect

(Continued from Page 1A)

he was carrying," Hertz said. "They ran a check and saw the murder warrants. Had he not been involved in that incident, he would still be on the loose. We're not happy he's off the streets."

Hall attempted to break into a house occupied by a 14-year-old boy, the boy's mother and a cousin.

"He just busted in and started running around," said Dominic Hill, who was watching television when Hall ran into his Oklahoma City home. "He closed the door and ran into the living room and kitchen and looked out the windows."

Hill said he was so surprised he barely had time to react.

"I told him that he was crazy because he said that this crazy man was running through my house. He didn't listen to me but the police came and took him out."

Hall was charged with the Beasley and Masters murders Oct. 13 after police searched a locker rented in Hall's name.

The women's unclothed bodies were found by a farmer the morning of Oct. 4 in a soybean field off Route 3 near Old Alton Road and the Chemtco plant. The women's clothing was found folded in a pile near the bodies.

The women had been shot several times with a shotgun at close range. One was also shot with a handgun.

At the time of the murders, Hall was wanted for failure to return from a furlough in Colorado Springs where he was to begin serving a 24-year prison sentence for assault.

— From the Alton Telegraph

of Pontoon Beach and Darla D. LeMaster of Glen Carbon, and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William C. and Beulah M. (Pierce) Smith.

Visitation is from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today, Thursday, at Thomas Memorial Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City, where services are at 11 a.m. today. Burial will be in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Bernard C. Health Jr. and William Elmer Halfhill, and his parents, Elmer and Mary Williams Halfhill.

At his request, his remains were cremated. No services will be held. Arrangements were by Thomas Memorial Mortuary, Granite City.

retirement in 1977, he was of the Baptist faith and was a U.S. Army veteran.

Survivors include three sons, John C. Halfhill of Vermilion, Thomas R. Halfhill of Sumnerland, Fla., and Clyde R. Halfhill of Key West, Fla.; two daughters, Dorothy M. King of Granite City, and Dorothy M. King of Granite City, N.C.; and a sister, Beverly D. Halfhill of Granite City, and several grandchildren.

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At his request, his remains were cremated. No services will be held. Arrangements were by Thomas Memorial Mortuary, Granite City.

John Downs

John A. Downs, 56, of Granite City, formerly of Dover, Tenn., died at 4:10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26, 1994, in the emergency room at St. Elizabeth Medical Center after a sudden illness.

He was born July 27, 1938, in Dover, Tenn., and had been a resident for 18 years prior to moving to Granite City 40 years ago.

He produced manager with Park and Shop Grocery Market in Washington Park for 12 years, he was a Baptist faith.

Survivors include his wife, Frances L. (Hass) Downs, whom he married Sept. 12, 1958, in East St. Louis; three sons, John, Thomas and Ernie; and two daughters, Patricia Bibe, both of Dover, and two grandchildren.

Services were to be held at 10 a.m. today, Thursday, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City.

Memorials are requested for the American Heart Association.

Gladys Fowler

Gladys G. (Gann) Fowler, 87, of Granite City, died at 5:45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26, 1994, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center after a one-year illness.

She was born Jan. 5, 1907, in Lafayette, Tenn., and had been a resident of Granite City for 49 years.

A homemaker, she was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Granite City. Survivors include one daughter, Louise Dorch of Granite City; two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Hoyte Fowler, who died in 1962, and her parents, Asa C. and Mary Rose Gann.

Services are at 1 p.m. today, Thursday, at Warner Chapel for Funerals, 3020 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, with the Rev. Fred Boatright officiating. Burial will be in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are requested for Good Shepherd Methodist Church or Calvary Baptist Church.

Bernard Halfhill

Bernard D. Halfhill Sr., 67, of Granite City, formerly of Vermilion, Ohio, died at 12:12 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1994, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center after a five-month illness.

Mr. Halfhill was born April 19, 1927, in South Heights, Pa., and had been a resident of Vermilion for three years prior to moving to Granite City two years ago.

He was a member of the Baptist Church in Cleveland for 20 years before his

death.

Survivors include his wife, Sylvia Smith, whom he married in 1967; one son, William J. Smith Jr., of Pontoon Beach; two daughters, Tammy M. Smiley

and one grandchild, Michael Smith.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 19, at Kautz Mortuary, Webster Groves. Burial was in Missouri.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie (Witt) Tucker, his parents, William and Anna (Halford) Tucker, seven brothers, Fred, Glen, Fred, Henry, Louis, Jack and Donald Tucker, and one sister, Nell Pickett.

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are by Thomas Memorial Mortuary, Granite City, 879-4321.

Memorials are requested for the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville or St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Granite City.

Lera Watson

Lera M. (Waggoner) Watson, 90, of Granite City, formerly of Granite City, died at 3:20 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, 1994, at Calvary Cemetery, Granite City, after being ill for several years.

She was born May 28, 1904, in Grafton and had been a resident of Granite City for 55 years.

An office clerk with Illinois Power Company in Grafton for several years, she was of the Methodist faith.

She was a 50-year member of New Hope Chapter 32 of the Order of the Royal Neighbors of America and the White Shrine of Friendship.

Survivors include one son, Charles Watson of Newburg, Mo.; one daughter, Mary Jane Buge of Glen Carbon; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and several other grandchildren and great-grandchildren by marriage.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Royden F. Watson; her parents, John and Lera (Lynn) Waggoner; one sister, Thelma Cook and three brothers, Raymond, Oren and Leslie Waggoner.

Services are at 11:30 a.m. today, Thursday, at Calvary Cemetery, Dec. 28, at Friendship Baptist Church, Madison, with the Rev. Lawrence Smith officiating.

Burial was in Sunset Gardens of Memory, Millstadt.

Arrangements were by Officer Funeral Home, East St. Louis.

Memorials are requested for the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children.

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rial service will be held at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon, at a later date.

Memorials are requested for the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville or St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Granite City.

Margaret Wright

Margaret Wright, 84, of Madison, died Sunday, Dec. 25, 1994. She was born July 12, 1910, in Amory, Miss.

Survivors include two sons, Ollie Wright Jr. and Ollie Wright Sr.; two daughters, Mable Lee Johnson and Alice Wright; and several grandchildren.

THURSDAY EVENING JANUARY 5, 1995												
	7:00	7:30	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	
BROADCAST STATIONS												
KTVI	11	My Back to Back (S)	43	Day Out (S)	News	5	Mythline	Murphy B. Design, W.	Judge Joe Tourant (S)	Extra		
KSLD	40	Duo South (In Stereo)	87	Eye Eye (In Stereo)	30	Low Cost						
KNSD	11	Ma-Yo	12	Relished (S) Madman	48	Hip Happy New Year (S)	20	Tonight Show (In Stereo)	Flash L	Life		
KRLD	11	Bogues	11	Ma-Yo	48	"South of Santa Fe"	30	Larry Rice		Life		
KRBC	11	Marlin (S)	11	Marlin (S)	48	Boyz n the City	30	Shirley	11	Life		
KETC	40	Bradley	Danbury	"Ma-Yo"	48	Travel	30	6th Street Scene	11	Life		
KPLR	11	Korban	11	Daniel	48	News	30	Relevance	11	Life		
CABLE	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
CNN	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
NICK	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
ESPN	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
WBNS	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
TWC	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
WGN	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
AMC	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
MTN	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
LIFE	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
JRN	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
FAM	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
ABC	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
PREMIUM STATIONS												
HMC	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
TBC	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	
YMC	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	1906	11	

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

JANUARY 8, 1995 1 to 4 PM

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- On Staff of Wood River Township Hospital
- Past President - St. Louis Chiropractic Research Foundation
- Member - American Chiropractic Association
- Member - Illinois Chiropractic Society
- Granite City, Born and Raised
- 29 Years of Family Practice

DR. J. L. STROTHEIDE

- Dr. Otto Reinert Scholarship Award - Logan Chiropractic College
- First in Class Chosen to be Teaching Associate in Chiropractic Department
- On Staff of Wood River Township Hospital
- Member - Parker Chiropractic Research Foundation
- Member - American Biomechanical and Bioengineering Association
- Member - International Chiropractic Association
- Granite City, Born and Raised

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U.S. opposes Ameritech plan

The U.S. Department of Justice wants to disconnect Ameritech's area customers from the phone company's plan to start offering long-distance service.

Ameritech-Illinois President Doug Whitley said Thursday the Justice Department is expected to recommend that a federal judge allow only the Chicago area in Ameritech's initial trial offer of long-distance service.

"We asked for a statewide trial in Illinois. What we got out of the Department of Justice last week would suggest they wanted to limit the trial to the Chicago metropolitan

area, where they believe there is a stronger expression of competition," Whitley said.

The Justice Department is expected to make a formal recommendation to U.S. District Judge Harold Greene in Washington early next year, he said.

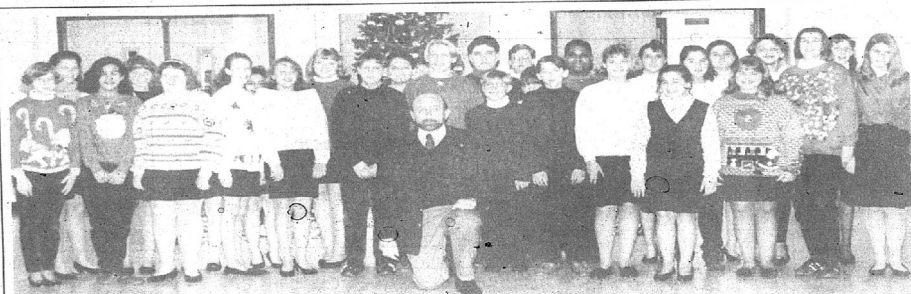
Greene presided over the landmark antitrust case a decade ago that broke up the former Bell System operated by American Telephone & Telegraph Co.

Ameritech was one of the regional local phone service companies, often nicknamed Baby Bells, formed after the breakup, which

limited AT&T to providing long-distance service.

However, Ameritech officials contend there is now widespread competition for both local and long-distance service. For example, MCI, primarily a long-distance carrier, is seeking permission to offer local service in parts of the Chicago area.

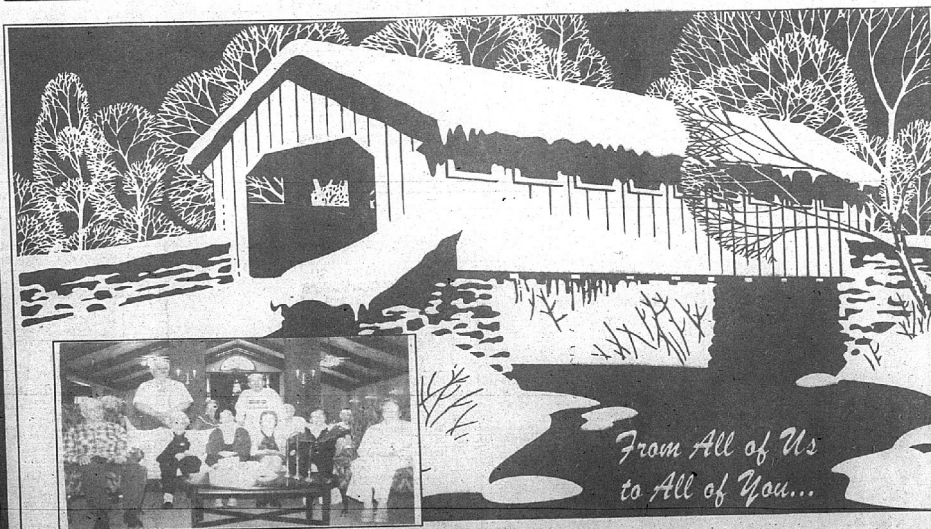
Whitley said Ameritech wants to be the first of the local carriers in the region to offer long-distance service at prices competitive with AT&T, MCI and Sprint; the three main long-distance carriers.



Helping out — Mayor Ron Selph's Christmas party featured entertainment, food, drinks — and those attending the party at City Hall contributed more than 300 presents for distribution to local agencies to help make the holiday a little brighter for needy youngsters. Above, providing the entertainment was the Coolidge Junior High School Swing Choir, lead by Sterling Schoen. At right, a stack of presents donated by partygoers surrounds the Christmas tree. Below left, Santa Claus celebrates with Karen Selph, left, and Selph. Below right, Ken Leonard and Selph smile for the camera.



(Photos by SHIRLEY VALENCIA)



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